Health Insurance Exchange and Affordable Care Act Update

Beth Lazare, Deputy Director Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System Moving Forward: Implementing Integrated Models of Care in Arizona Phoenix, August 23, 2012



Arizona Health Care Reform Guiding Principles

- Leverage the competitive, private insurance market to promote individual choice and reduce dependency on public entitlements, thereby maximizing coverage and strengthening Arizona's health care system.
- Recognize that, through Proposition 204, Arizona voters mandated coverage (within available resources) of individuals with incomes below 100% FPL.
- Identify enhanced federal match rate opportunities for the restoration of Proposition 204 as a sustainable component of the coverage solution based upon the principles of flexibility and state/federal partnership set forth in the AHCCCS Waiver.
- Implement payment reform strategies that lower costs by promoting quality of care and by maximizing personal responsibility through innovative cost-sharing designs.

Arizona Health Care Reform Guiding Principles

- Increase efficiency and responsiveness of Arizona's public health system by examining opportunities to streamline and consolidate duplicative agency functions related to the purchase and oversight of health care services.
- Work with health care, business and community stakeholders to build a high quality health care infrastructure that is patient-centered, sustainable, accessible and affordable.
- □ Keep health care decision making as local as possible.
- Acknowledge the importance of the health care industry to the state's overall economy and the impact of a stable health care system on Arizona's ability to attract and retain high quality jobs, including those in the medical profession.

Process and Timeline for Deliberations

- Ongoing: Submit clarifying questions to Federal Government and await further guidance on Federal interpretation of Supreme Court ruling for Medicaid.
- □ August 2012: Update fiscal estimates on State options.
- July November 2012: Engage stakeholders and obtain public input.
- □ November December 2012: Incorporate final decisions into normal policy-making process.

Health Insurance Exchange: Principles for an Arizona Exchange

- Build on Arizona's Strong Health Insurance Market.
- Support Market Facilitator Approach.
- Maximize Choice and Competition.
- Impose Minimal Regulations and Reporting Requirements.

Exchange Timeframes

- September 2012: Essential Benefits decision
- November 2012: Submit State's Intent regarding Exchange to HHS Secretary
- □ January 2013: HHS Secretary Certifies Exchange
- □ July 2013: Systems Readiness Testing
- □ October 2013: Exchange enrollment begins
- January 2014: Exchange coverage begins
- January 2015: Exchange must be self-sustaining through user fees, assessments or other funding sources

Exchange Stakeholder Engagement

- □ To facilitate input, Arizona formed the following stakeholder work groups:
 - Health Plan Work Group (led by ADOI)
 - Health Insurance Brokers and Agents Work Group (led by ADOI)
 - Tribal Work Group (led by ITCA)
 - IT Infrastructure Work Group (led by AHCCCS)
 - Legislative Work Group
- ☐ Governor's Office meeting with the following groups to gather input on decision regarding whether to operate a state Exchange:
 - Health Plans
 - ☐ Hospitals
 - □ Health Care Providers
 - □ Advocacy Groups
 - Media
- ☐ Essential Benefits feedback may also be provided at:

http://www.azgovernor.gov/hix/



HHS Vision of IAP Eligibility

- Easy and Fast: "minimize burden on States and individuals by relying on electronic data sources to verify applicant information wherever possible. In most cases, this will allow for a near real-time eligibility process"
- Coordinated: "...using the same simplified eligibility rules for premium tax credits, Medicaid and CHIP, individuals can enroll...without unnecessary steps or redundant paperwork."
- Seamless: "simplifies the redetermination process to help enrollees maintain coverage...without unnecessary disruptions."

(http://www.healthcare.gov/news/factsheets/2011/08/exchanges08122011b.html)

Eligibility

- ACA requires Exchanges to be able to screen for Medicaid "preliminary assessment"; final determination can be made by Medicaid
- Continuum Medicaid, CHIP, Exchange, Commercial
 - Family members could be covered across continuum
 - CHURN
 - Feb 2011 Health Affairs study estimates 28 million people/year shift between Medicaid and Exchange
 - □ In AZ, ~70K churn on and off Medicaid each month.

Leveraging Infrastructure

- □ Health-e-Arizona
 - Current Web-based service fully integrated with Medicaid, CHIP and Human Service eligibility systems
 - Potential Exchange Portal Access
 - Eligibility (MAGI, Other Medicaid, CHIP, SNAP, TANF, SHOP, Navigator, Exemptions, other)
 - Infrastructure (Integration with State Eligibility systems)
- Potential online, real-time AZ-HIX that supports:
 - Public benefits (e.g., Medicaid, CHIP, SNAP, TANF)AND
 - Private health insurance and other benefits
- □ Leverage AHCCCS data warehouse and reporting

Estimated Enrollment Increases

	<u>Eligible</u>	<u>Participants</u>
Exchange	621,000	479,000
SHOP Exchange	1,822,000	510,000
AHCCCS	431,000	247,000

Who could use a potential AZ-HIX integrated enrollment system?

- Consumers
 - QHP with or without Tax Credits and Cost Sharing
 - Medicaid (MAGI and non-MAGI)
 - CHIP
 - Other Health Programs
 - Human Service Programs (at least SNAP and TANF)
- Employers and Employees for SHOP
 - Small Group Insurance

- Assistance Groups
 - State Workers
 - Community Assistors
 - Navigators
 - Producers (Agents and Brokers)
 - Call Center and other Consumer Supports
- □ QHPs
 - Plan Certification and Management

Transition of Members Across Continuum

□ Transitions:

- Minimize service disruption when changing carriers
- Ensure treatment for acute and chronic conditions continues; prevent escalation of health needs
- Coordinate care for populations with special health care needs

Opportunities for Care Coordination

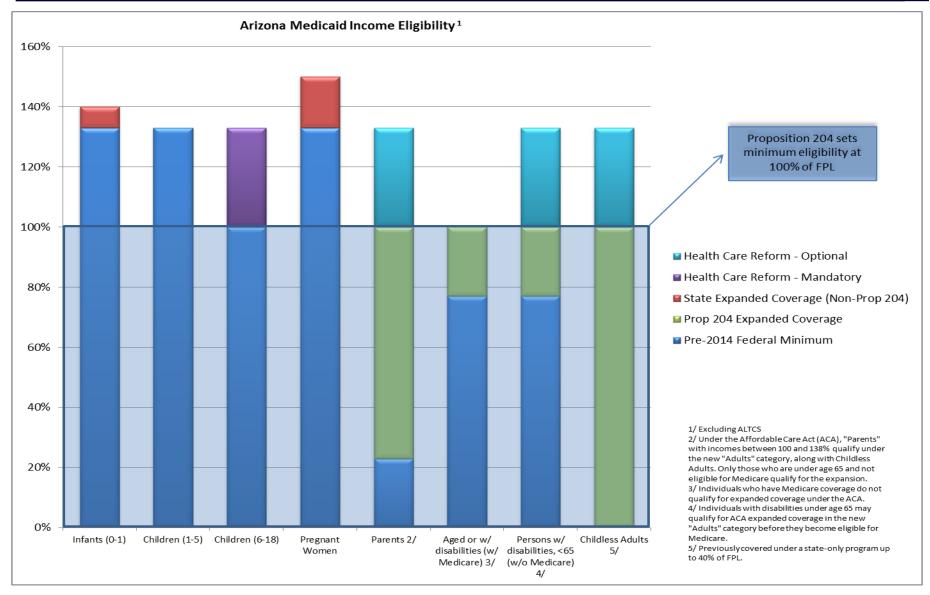
- Insurers more likely to offer across continuum
 - Medicaid enrollment expected to exceed 1.5 million
 Arizonans (out of ~6 million)
 - Churn 70K on and off Medicaid each month
 - Many previously became uninsured
 - Greater number will now move across continuum
 - Medicaid plans must get commercial license to be QHP or commercial carrier
- Current AZ law and Medicaid contract language re: transition of care

Data Sharing

- Created workgroup as part of Exchange planning process
 - Commercial and Medicaid health plan staff
 - Care Coordination Attestation re: Data Sharing
 - Diagnosis of specific conditions (e.g., Cancer, CHF, Pregnancy, Asthma)
 - □ ED, Inpatient & Drug utilization (12 months prior)
 - Open authorizations

Data Sharing (ctd.)

- Attestation/Requirements will be added to:
 - Exchange QHP application
 - Medicaid Health Plan contracts
 - Oct 1, 2013 contracts will also include data sharing between RBHA and Health Plans
- Next Steps:
 - HOW IT survey re: data exchange methods

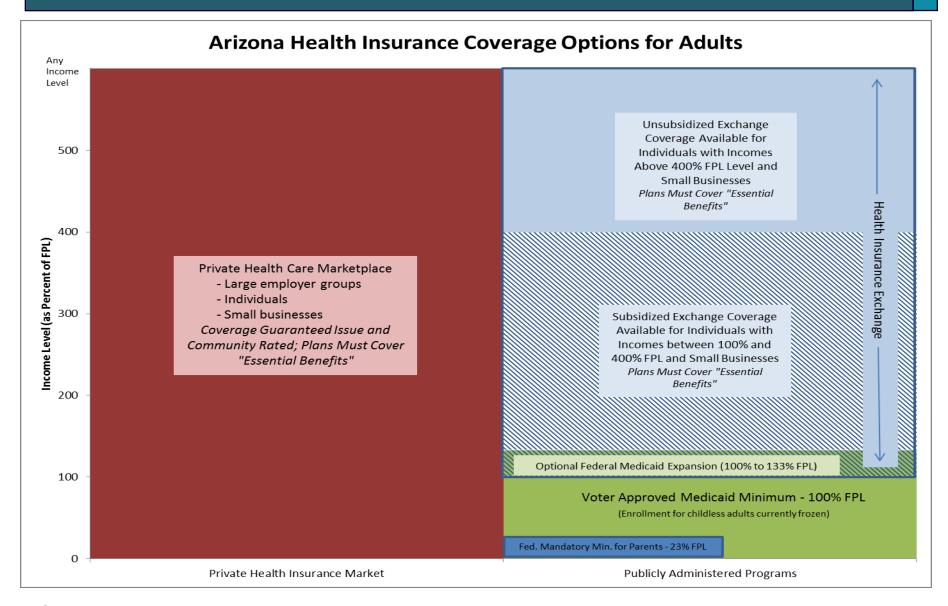




AHCCCS Coverage Solutions: Current Status of the AHCCCS Program

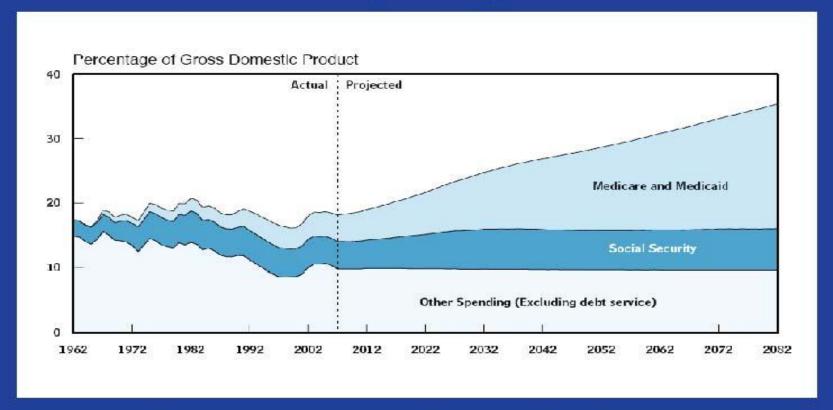
- □ Prop. 204 mandates AHCCCS cover all Arizonans up to 100% FPL within available resources.
- State Supreme Court approved freeze because Legislature determined additional resources were not available.
- The childless adult enrollment freeze also necessitated a change to the AHCCCS Waiver, which provides federal authority to cover this population.
- The current Waiver ends January 1, 2014; childless adults will lose their coverage without some further action.
- □ The current childless adult population (0-100% FPL) does not have access to subsidies on the Exchange.







Medicare and Medicaid Are <u>the</u> Primary Drivers of Future Federal Spending Growth and Deficits



Source: CBO, Key Issues in Analyzing Major Health Insurance Proposals," December 2008.

HEALTH MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATES



AHCCCS Coverage Solutions: Achieving Long-Term Sustainability

- Although the AHCCCS program has achieved balance within its budget, concerns remain:
 - Prop. 100 temporary, one-cent sales tax expires July 1, 2013.
 - Proposed Quality Education & Jobs Initiative seeking to establish one-cent tax offers no help:
 - □ Directs funding for healthcare only to KidsCare.
 - Additional funding for KidsCare is not needed since federal government will cover 99% of KidsCare costs under ACA.
 - □ Offers no flexibility to support broader AHCCCS program.
 - State's budget was planned through Fiscal Year 2015, incorporating cost of full Medicaid expansion and resulting in \$400M deficit.

AHCCCS Coverage Solutions: Building on a Tradition of Flexibility, Partnership

- Flexibility, partnership are cornerstone of AHCCCS success, mainly through 1115 Waiver, which:
 - Created first statewide, mandatory Medicaid Managed Care program (1982);
 - Permitted Home and Community Based Services to allow elderly and individuals with disabilities to stay at home instead of being placed in institutions for their care (1989).
 - Allowed coverage for Childless Adults in response to Prop. 204 (2001);
 - Supported personal responsibility through mandatory copays for Childless Adults (2003); and
 - Provides State ability to manage program during fiscal crisis.

AHCCCS Coverage Solutions: Requires Partnership with Federal Government

- Additional guidance needed on what populations are optional:
 - Confirm Children up to 138% FPL mandatory.
 - What about parents?
- Can Arizona obtain enhanced match for restoring childless adult coverage to 100% FPL, but not 133%?
- □ What type of flexibility will states have via 1115 waiver process?
- □ How will November elections impact policy direction?

Policy Opportunities and Considerations

- □ Opportunities for private, commercial coverage of:
 - Non-AHCCCS eligible individuals with Serious Mental Illness; impact on the State's role.
 - KidsCare eligible children.
- How to address state cost of Childless Adult population, which is not 100% federally funded?
- □ Need to assess impact of federal reductions to DSH.
- What is impact of converting FPL to new MAGI; what is actual FPL and what are associated costs?

Opportunities for Operational Efficiencies

- Currently, multiple agencies across state government are performing the same function of purchasing healthcare services for the State.
- Modernizing Arizona's healthcare infrastructure presents opportunities to consolidate some of these functions.
- Streamlining government functions supports best practices,
 leverages existing capacity and achieves greater efficiencies.
- The State could better focus on reform initiatives to align incentives in healthcare, pay for quality of care and not quantity of services, modernize reimbursement strategies (e.g., use of APR-DRGs), and pursue innovation grants.